**1**

**VILLAGE OF HARRISTOWN**

**February 27, 2023**

The Board **of** Trustees **of the Village** of **Harristown held** their **monthly meeting on** February 27, 2023 **at** 185 N. Kembark St., **Harristown, IL.** Trustees **Teresa Acree**, Kevin Vessels, Jeff **Eller**, Jay Trusner, Les **Jenkins**, **Mayor** Evelyn Deverell**,** Treasurer **Julie** Rose, Budget Officer Rick Laskowski, and **Attorney Andrew Weatherford were in** attendance**. Clerk** Penny **Allen** was absent. **Mayor Deverell called the** meeting to **order at 6:30** P.M. **followed by the Pledge of** Allegiance.

***Consent Agenda***

**a) Motion by** Trustee **Jenkins to move** appointing **new trustee up** on **the agenda**.

**Trustee Trusner 2nd. Motion passed 5-0**. **Motion made by Trustee Trusner** to **approve revised meeting agenda**. Trustee **Jenkins 2nd**. **Motion** passed 5-0.

**b) Approve** 1/23/23 **meeting** minutes. **Motion by Trustee Acree** to **approve with no**

changes. **Trustee Vessels 2nd** Motion **passed 5-0**

c) **New** Trustee. **April** Bogan gave a **brief introduction**. **Village Clerk** Penny **Allen**

not present for **New Trustee** installation process. Deputy **Clerk Misty Peters was called** to **come to Village** Hall **to install the new Trustee**.

*Visitors*

Mr. Shepherd **–** Concerned about Lounge at **Cannabis Dispensary, worried** about **Youth of today**.

**Pam Shephard -** Concerned about **safety of** other drivers; **driving** under **the** influence **of cannabis.**

Doris **Mabry** - Does not **want** Lounge in **the** village.

**Kimberly Robertson -** How **is** driving **under the influence** of cannabis **it legal?**

**John Shields** - Commented **that driving** under **the** influence **of Cannabis is illegal**.

***Mayor Updates***

**a**) **Billingsley's gas** station opened.

**b)** Statement of Economic interest needs to be completed by **Board** members. **c**) Golf **cart permit** contest.

d) Superintendent Closs not present at **meeting, addressing** issues **with sewer system**. e) Collection being conducted for caps **and** lids to be **used to** for **park benches**. f) Flower **bed in** front of Village **Hall**.

*New Trustee*

Deputy Clerk Misty **Peters conducted installation** process. **Oath spoken** and **documents** signed. **April Bogan filled the** vacant Trustee **position**.

2

***Treasurers*** Report

a) A **10-page report** was **distributed** to Board members **and reviewed**.

b) **Included** was **the** financial **report listing receipts**, total **disbursements and bank**

**balances** by **Fund**. **Motion by Trustee Vessels to approve**, **Trustee** Acree **2nd**, **approved 6-0.**

**c) Also** included was **Cash** requirements of **invoices >** $1,000. **Total** amount=

**$4,950.00**. **Motion to approve payment made** by Trustee **Jenkins**. **Trustee Vessels 2nd.** Motion passed **6-0**.

d) Other reports **for information only** included **a breakdown of** IL Funds accounts,

**daily** interest **rate** history of IL Funds**, state** revenue summary, **Water Reserve balance, ARPA** Fund spending, Community **Center rental income,** Veterans **Memorial donations, United Regional Water Coop invoice listing, and IEPA Loan payments**.

e) **Cash Receipts and Disbursements** Journals listing **all transactions** for **period** from

1/1/23 **to** 1/31/23 **were provided**.

***Budget Officers*** *Report*

**a**) Monthly budget report for January **2023 was reviewed**. **Motion** by **Trustee**

**Vessels to** accept **the** Budget **report**. Trustee **Eller 2nd.** Motion **passed 6-0**. Study **Session to review** and **discuss** 2023-24 **Budget** set for **6:00** PM **Thursday April** 6, **2023,** at **Village** Hall.

***Zoning*/***Planning*

**a**) Hearing at **1395 N. Meridian** (homeowner **is Ryan Blankenship)** - Mike Sorrentino presented Variance hearing **report.** A **garage** has **already been constructed that has 3 violations** – **height** is 1 ft too **tall, setback (33 ft) from** 2nd St. is **less than the 35 ft minimum**, and too **close (6 in**.) to neighbor's property **line**. No issues **from neighbors who attended** the **meeting. Committee vote was 6-** O to **deny the variance.** Recommend **that the** garage stay **on the property** but **issue fine due** to no **permit**. **A $**200 **fine has** been **paid** for no **building** permit. **Board is concerned** about future **requests with similar issues. 2 residents who reported the issue to** the **mayor**, were **not** present **at the** hearing. Chris Bradley, Blankenship Attorney, commented that **the location** previously housed a car port**.** Other **violations existed prior** to **the** construction **of the** garage. **Neighbors have** no issues. Board **feels fine** should be increased. **Work was completed prior to work** stoppage. Motion **by Trustee** Trusner **for an additional $200** fine for ordinance **violation**. Trustee **Jenkins 2nd**; Approved 5-1; Trustee Vessels **voted no. Motion by Trustee Jenkins to allow** variance. Trustee Trusner **2nd; Approved** 6-0.

***Public*** *Works*

a) Report from Jonathon Closs was **distributed listing activities during the month**. b) **Sludge** Survey **will** identify **problems**; estimated cost **is $1,500**.

c) **New** Generator **has** been purchased.

**3**

*Old Business*

**a**) **New Trustee - April** Bogan installed **earlier in the meeting**. **b**) Update **on** Insurance **Claim - check** received for **sewer** issues. **c**) Cannabis **Lounge** - Promotional **materials were published that** contained a

**Lounge. A** Lounge should not **have** been **listed and will** not **be included** in the current **project**. The **current ordinance allows the mayor** to approve **a Lounge**. Trustee **Trusner feels a** commission **should approve**, not **just the** mayor. **He** also **wants** to eliminate consumption and a Lounge**. The process should be modified** to **not allow** a Lounge **in the** future**; need** to **rework/edit the ordinance**. Motion **by** Trustee Bogan to not **issue license** for cannabis **consumption without** Board approval. **Trustee** Trusner **2nd;** approved 6-0. **Trustee** Trusner feels **three**-**person** committee **be formed to review the** process. Mayor **Deverell to** notify **construction company that there will be no** Lounge for **cannabis consumption**.

New *Business*

a) Resolution to support **TIF financing -** encourages **business; Harristown approves**

**economic development. Motion** by Trustee Vessels **to approve** TIF **support resolution**. **Trustee** Trusner **2nd**; **Approved 6-0**. **Spelling corrections needed on the**

**resolution**.

b) **New cable company** - **MCC** Conxxus, **out** of Lovington, IL **Currently**, **the village**

**has** a 10**-year** agreement **with** Comcast. **The new company will have** a similar arrangement. **Franchise** agreement **with village is needed**. **This will** offer **competition with Comcast**.

c) Temporary Liquor **License application - draft** distributed **for review**. **Attorney**

**Weatherford commented that the draft was obtained** from **state** agency. **Are 2 permits needed**? **(state & village). Suggest** adding question if **applicant has been** convicted **of a felony. Table till review with Illinois** Liquor commission.

*Personnel*

a) No **report**

*Streets* ***and*** *Alley*

**a) No report**

***Finance***

**a**) **No report**

***Ordinance***

**a**) Solar **and Wind Ordinances** - **Chapter 39** in current **ordinances; modification**

distributed **with suggested changes** from past **meetings**. **Solar panels (39-1-3) may** cover 100**% of** roof structure**.** More **review and adjustments** are needed. Ground **panels allowed on** no more **than 50%** of **the roof surface of the main** structure. **Setback** requirements **are defined**. **Special use permits** required. **Need** to comply **with** Zoning **policies** and **ordinances. No more than 30% of** lot can be covered **with ground panels. Small revisions needed**, **table till next meeting**.

4

**b**) Discussion **of** fines for **ordinance violations** - Current list of fines distributed. **Can**

fines **be** standardized? Ordinance meeting **to be** scheduled to discuss fines.

*Water and Sewer*

2/9/23 Committee **meeting** minutes distributed.

a) **URWC** - **Water losses, billing vs usage need** to **be reviewed and** analyzed. b) **120Water this company helps** comply with IEPA reporting requirements. **This**

**includes lead and** copper service lines**.** Cost is $7,000. **Motion** to approve **$7,000** payment made by Trustee **Trusner**. Trustee **Acree 2nd**. **Approved 6-0**.

c) **Sewer** plant **- Sludge test** to **be conducted**. **This** will determine any lagoon issues.

*Economic* ***Development/Community***

**a**) Community **Involvement Committee - 2/16/23 meeting** minutes **distributed**. b) **Indus groundbreaking - invitations have been sent**.

c) **Park - Applied** for **3** grants. **Tree** removal estimates **are needed**.

d) **EDC**/Enterprise Zone - Future **project** incentives**.** Nicole Bateman **of** EDC has

**been contacted**.

**e) Fireworks $22K** spent last year**.** Scaled down **competitive package** for **$**20K.

**Needs to be reviewed** and recommendations **made**.

*Attorney*

**a**) Items **are** for Closed **session**.

Motion **by Trustee Vessels to enter closed session to** discuss **approve release** of closed **session minutes and review of open** ordinance violations. Trustee **Jenkins** 2nd **-** Motion passed 6-0. **Leave regular session at** 9:05 **PM**.

**Returned from Closed session at 9:28** PM

***Release*** *closed session* ***meeting minutes***

a) Meetings **dates were:** 1/24/22, 4/18/22**,** 5/23/22, 6/20/22, 7/25/22, 9/26/22.

Motion by Trustee **Vessels** to **release six sets** of closed session meeting minutes. Trustee **Trusner 2nd; Approved** 6-0.

Motion **by** Trustee Jenkins to adjourn, Trustee Acree **2nd.** Motion passed **6-0**.

Meeting adjourned **at 9:30** PM

Rick Laskowski 3/6/2023

**Rick Laskowski Budget** Officer